

PATENT

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

Appl. No.: 10/577,778 Confirmation No.: 6101  
Applicant(s): Halbert *et al.*  
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Art Unit: 1636  
Examiner: Hibbert, Catherine S.  
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Docket No.: 031749/311275  
Customer No.: 00826

Mail Stop Missing Parts  
Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

**PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT  
37 CFR § 1.115**

Sir:

Prior to the substantive examination of this application on its merits, please enter the following amendments:

**Amendments to the Specification** begin on page 2 of this paper.

**Remarks** begin on page 4 of this paper.